Criteria for Non-Government Directors on Boards of Banks

2549. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria on the basis of which non-government directors are selected for serving on the boards of directors of nationalised banks, the advisory boards for foreign banks and the central board of directors of the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) whether these criteria are revised from time to time;

(c) whether complaints have been received concerning the integrity of these Government nominees named to the boards of banks and financial institutions; and

(d) the modality followed by the authorities to enquire into such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The appointment of non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 and the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970/80. The appointment of such directors on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the RBI Act, 1934.

Local Advisory Boards of foreign banks are constituted as per the guidelines issued by the RBI. These Local Advisory Boards are not statutory bodies and their role is only advisory in nature.

(b) The criteria followed for selection of persons for appointment as non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks is reviewed by the Government from time to time.

(c) and (d) RBI have reported that complaints have been received by them regarding two non-official directors. These are being examined in consultation with the concerned banks by RBI for taking necessary action in terms of the appointment of these directors.

Encouraging Research in Homoeopathy in the Context of Health for all by 2000 AD

2550. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Health Policy assigns an important role to Homoeopathy in health care in the country in the context of the National target of achieving, 'Health for All' by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to encourage research in Homoeopathy; and

(c) if so, the total funding sanctioned for this purpose to the Homoeopathic institutions imparting degree level education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) The National Health Policy of 1983 envisages that Homoeopathy be developed in accordance with its genius with a view to find its appropriate role and place in the overall health care delivery system in the country. The Fourth conference of Central Council for Health and Family Welfare in its meeting held on October 11—13th, 1995 laid emphasis on Homoeopathy in achieving the goal of 'Health for All' and accordingly it was resolved that adequate budget allocation be made for the development of Homoeopathy; strengthening under graduate colleges; ensuring quality control of drugs; setting up treatment centres and wards in State/District hospitals; conservation of Medicinal Plants and propagation of herbs for simple health programmes.

(b) Yes, Sir.